

NEWARK EAGLES BASEBALL CLUB

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P U B L I C I T Y

The Newark Eagles Baseball Club which is in second place in the Negro National League, is the youngest, hustling ballclub in the circuit and one of the hardest hitting teams in any league. The Eagles, managed by one of the all-time Negro great catchers, Bizz Mackey, has been playing the Garden State under its present name for past six years and grown considerably in popularity among sports followers all over the East so that now it is one of the most desirable attractions in Negro baseball.

Presently in second place behind the Cuban Stars, the Newark Eagles still have a slim chance of qualifying for the playoffs of the league with the first half winner, the Homestead Grays. The Cuban Stars are pacing the second half standings. Newark finished second in the last season's competition and also finished second in the first half competition. So, Manager Mackey is out to break the "jinx" and bring his team in on top.

Every player on the Eagles squad is of draft age with the exception of the manager who is 42, stands 6-1 and weighs 220. Mackey is a resident of Los Angeles Calif and returns there every winter. He has been in professional baseball for 21 years, playing with the Indianapolis club, the Hillsdale Giants, Philadelphia Stars, and three years ago before coming to Newark he was manager of the Baltimore Elite Giants, league team. Born in Texas, Mackey is a confirmed bachelor. He abstains from the use of alcoholics and does not smoke.

Most versatile and outstanding player on the team is Leon Day, 24, a chunky ~~fast~~ 5 foot player who weighs 180 pounds. A native of Alexandria Va., though now settled in Belleville (NJ), a suburb of Newark, where his wife owns a beauty parlor, Day has proven himself as the most desirable ballplayer on any club.

Day bats from his right side and throws righthanded- but what he can do with both those motions from various positions on the diamond is to be marvelled at. Day, rated as one of the leading pitchers in the league, started the season by pitching the opening game for Newark. In that opener, ^{was} Russ Awkard, who played centerfield, and who the next day was called to Washington by his Selective Service draft board and inducted into the Army.

Mackey called for Day to play centerfield. There was no question raised or any discussion, Day took his glove with him to the pastures and did well, making several difficult catches. But, what was even more important, his hitting was superb and he was soon found in the third and fourth positions in the batting order as it was shifted in the early weeks of the season. Day, returned to his pitching post almost a month ago when a satisfactory fielder was found to fill the outfield post, but Mackey continued him as a pinch hitter. Then, an accident, when an infielder was hurt, Day was sent to second base--- and there he looks so good, it is felt that he will see little mound duty in the future. His hitting power is a great help in the batting order and his defensive play as apt of a double play combination with Monte Irvin is unchallenged. Day, who has been playing pro ball for the past six year, is a modest, retiring player, whose temperment was apparently developed while on mound. He is a leader among the players and one of the best liked on the squad. He has played with the Baltimore Black Sox and the Eagles